



OUR GARDENING GUIDE

A guide to native plant gardening in San Diego



California bush sunflower



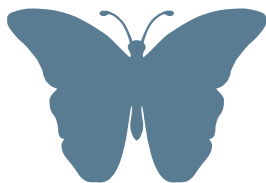
Sticky monkeyflower

What is a San Diego native plant?

San Diego native plants naturally occur in this region and are uniquely adapted to this environment, making them the perfect plants to put in your garden.

WHY PLANT NATIVE?

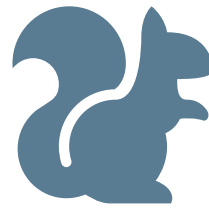
Planting San Diego native plants in your at-home landscape is a great way to give back to nature. Native gardens support pollinators, reduce your water usage, require minimal long-term maintenance, provides important habitat, and can improve your quality of life. With just a few native plants, your backyard can be a sanctuary for wildlife. Your garden can make a difference.



Supports
pollinators



Minimal
maintenance



Provides
habitat



Improves
quality of life

SUGGESTED PLANTS

San Diego County is home to more than 1,500 native plant species. Here are just a few native plants that can be found at your local nursery.

Trees:

- Desert Willow (*Chilopsis linearis*)
- Laurel Sumac (*Malosma laurina*) *
- Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)
- Western Redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*)

Shrubs:

- Black sage (*Salvia mellifera*) *
- California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*)
- California bush sunflower (*Encelia californica*) *
- Coastal goldenbush (*Isocoma menziesii*)
- De la mina verbena (*Verbena lilacina* 'De la Mina')
- Narrowleaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*) *
- Sticky monkeyflower (*Diplacus aurantiacus*)

*Pictured below



PLANTING POINTERS

- Plant in the fall before the rainy season.
- Dig a hole 1.5 times deeper and 2 times wider than the pot
- When refilling the dirt, pack in the soil tight around the roots to avoid air pockets which could result in drying out the roots.
- Build a berm around the plant to capture water and avoid run-off.
- Give your plants some space. Space out your plants to give them room to breathe. Remember - they'll grow!

WATER WISELY

- Native plants are great water savers in your garden!
- Water weekly for the first eight weeks, then switch to bi-monthly.
- Once plant is established, rely on seasonal rains with the exception watering on extra hot summer days.

CONSIDER THIS

To further improve your backyard space, consider the following:

- Hang a hummingbird feeder to attract these beautiful birds to your yard - they're pollinators!
- Add an owl box for a natural way to control rodents
- Avoid planting plants considered to be invasive, especially if you live near a canyon.
- Visit CalScape.org for more information.
- Visit CNPSSD.org for nurseries that carry native plants.



www.sdcanyonlands.org



Black sage
(*Salvia mellifera*)

- Aromatic
- Drought tolerant
- 3ft - 6ft tall, up to 10ft wide
- Flowers are blue, purple, or white
- Full sun



Narrowleaf milkweed
(*Asclepias fascicularis*)

- Important pollinator plant
- A host plant for Monarch butterflies
- 1ft - 3ft tall, 1ft wide
- Flowers are light purple
- Full sun



California bush sunflower
(*Encelia californica*)

- Drought tolerant
- 1ft - 5ft tall, 3ft - 7ft wide
- Flowers are bright yellow
- Full to partial sun



Laurel sumac
(*Malosma laurina*)

- Drought tolerant
- 10ft - 20ft tall, 20 ft. wide
- Flowers are small and white
- Full sun